



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8

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February 7, 2003

Ref: 8EPR-SR

Mr. Gordon Sullivan
PO Box 718
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Gordon:

Thank you for your letter. I'll address your two basic concerns separately.

Dust Samples

Per your request, I asked CDM (our investigation contractor) to pull your dust samples from our archives and analyze them as soon as possible. I've enclosed the results along with this letter. Six dust samples were collected from the interior and were analyzed using Transmission Electron Microscopy - the most accurate method available. No Libby asbestos was detected in any of the samples (shown under the "actinolite" heading on the results sheet). This does not necessarily mean there is absolutely no Libby asbestos in the dust, but does mean that the levels are at least very low. That is good news and should provide you some comfort regarding your family's health. The results also showed a low level of chrysotile asbestos in one sample, which probably indicates the presence of some other asbestos containing material in your home.

In general, we are using dust samples (along with visual inspections) to determine if cleaning of the actual living space is required (as opposed to the attic, which will be cleaned of vermiculite insulation regardless). In your case, even though the dust results were "non-detect," we will perform interior cleaning because we noted visible vermiculite during our inspections.

Cleanup

As we discussed in Libby during our first meeting, the EPA team is currently in the process of sorting out which homes and businesses we will clean and when. We are doing our best to weigh the many factors involved (such as risk, extent of contamination, location, businesses concerns, relocation concerns, prior commitments, ongoing or planned property renovations, property owner requests, etc.) and make decisions fairly and efficiently. One additional criteria I am considering is when a property was sampled. All things being equal, I would like to try to clean up properties that were sampled a few years ago before we clean up



properties that were sampled last year. Your property fits that criteria and is targeted for cleanup during the 2003 construction season (spring through fall) when we will be addressing properties that require both indoor cleanup and outdoor cleanup.

We try to be flexible as to the exact timing of our cleanup, but cannot always meet property owner requests. In general, we have committed to providing at least two weeks notice before starting cleanup and try to provide even more advance notice as to the general timing. With businesses in particular, we recognize the timing and duration of our cleanup can greatly affect your financial well being, and will attempt to work with business owners to target times that have the least effect. Given you and Cathie operate your businesses out of your home, with equipment that is an inherent part of your home, your circumstances require some special consideration.

While I cannot give you an exact start date for cleanup of your property now, I assure you we will work closely with you on the timing. If you have specific preferences, whether in a particular season or month, or on specific dates (such as vacation time) we will target your property for cleanup then. In our first meeting, we discussed "spring" as a potential time for cleanup, but to my recollection did not nail anything down. If you have preferred times or dates, please let me know as soon as possible and we will work off that. Because your property will require outdoor cleanup, we must target it during the outdoor construction season.

In the near future, as with all properties targeted for cleanup this spring or summer, representatives of CDM will be contacting you to begin working on the specifics of your property. Given your business situation, I've asked CDM to contact you as soon as possible. We will want to conduct a "pre-design" inspection of your property to obtain the information we need to prepare a property specific cleanup plan for you and to give to our cleanup contractors. We will begin working closely with you on details of schedule, relocation, cleanup implementation, and other issues shortly after. I hope once we begin working on the specifics of your property that you will find the design and construction team professional, courteous, fair, and accommodating.

As always, I will be in Libby periodically and am available to discuss any issues of concern. I know we've had a few rocky conversations, but I assure you I respect the position you are in and the frustration the situation in Libby brings. Feel free to contact the EPA Information Center at 293-6194 to set up an appointment if you would like. Otherwise, look for a contact from CDM regarding design and planning for your property within the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Christiansen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "C".

Jim Christiansen
Remedial Project Manager

A	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ	AK
ISO Concentrations (Air = structures/c) (Dust = structures/cm)																										
Actinolite													Other Amphiboles													
Chrysotile													Excluded Structures													
Excluded Structures													Excluded Structures													
Aspect Ratio	Length < 0.5 μ	Length > 0.5 μ	Di-meter > 0.5 μ	Length < 0.5 μ	Length > 0.5 μ	Length 5 to 10 μ	Length > 10 μ	Aspect Ratio < 5:1	Aspect Ratio > 5:1	Length < 0.5 μ	Length > 0.5 μ	Length 5 to 10 μ	Length > 10 μ	Aspect Ratio < 5:1	Aspect Ratio > 5:1	Length < 0.5 μ	Length > 0.5 μ	Length 5 to 10 μ	Length > 10 μ	Aspect Ratio < 5:1	Aspect Ratio > 5:1	Length < 0.5 μ	Length > 0.5 μ	Length 5 to 10 μ	Length > 10 μ	
Grid Open logs																										
Sample ID	Property Group (Location)	Sample Group	Location Description (Sub Location)	Media Type	Matrix	Category	Date																			
6	1-05771	143 Crossway Ave	House	Dust	Building	Field Sample	2/15/02	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	1-05772	143 Crossway Ave	House	Dust	Building	Field Sample	2/15/02	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	1-05773	143 Crossway Ave	House	Dust	Building	Field Sample	2/15/02	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	1-05774	143 Crossway Ave	House	Dust	Building	Field Sample	2/15/02	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	1-05775	143 Crossway Ave	House	Dust	Building	Field Sample	2/15/02	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	1-05776	143 Crossway Ave	House	Dust	Building	Field Sample	2/15/02	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0